

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action of February 9, 2004.

Drawings

Figure 3 has been amended as requested by the Examiner to reflect that the connector shown is prior art.

The Examiner objected to Figure 15 with respect to a lead line for "groove" 104. Applicants submit Figure 15 is correct as originally filed. Figure 15 is a cross-section across the weight 100. Slot 104 extends from an outside edge of the weight to adjacent to the center. (See page 5, lines 20-22.) Reference number 104 in Figure 15 points to the slot that is extending from an outside edge to adjacent to the center of the weight. Also see Figure 13 for the cross-sectional line indicating the reference plane for Figure 15. Applicants respectfully submit Figure 15 is acceptable as filed.

A full set of formal drawings including the proposed change to Figure 3 is included. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to approve the formal drawings.

Claim Objections

Claims 9-13 were objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.75(c). Applicants do not agree with the Examiner's reasoning. The device of Figure 1 is used with the polishing tray of Figure 9 for use in polishing fiber optic connectors, as recited in the preamble of claim 1. However, in an effort to expedite prosecution, claims 9-13 are canceled. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute claims in accordance with claims 9-13 in a further continuation or divisional application.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd Paragraph

Claims 1 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph. Applicants have amended claims 1 and 24 to address the Examiner's concerns. Applicants respectfully submit claims 1-8 and 24-27 meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph.

Conclusion

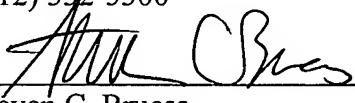
Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested. If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issue, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number noted.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: _____

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE